

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District  
District Regular Board Meeting  
October 24, 2019  
8 a.m.  
Farm Service Agency Office  
611 Broadway Avenue.  
Wabasha, MN 55981**

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Meeting called to order at 8:00AM by Chair  
Terry Helbig  
Supervisors Present: Terry Helbig, Chair; Lynn Zabel, Vice Chair, Larry Theismann, Secretary; Chuck Fick, Treasurer  
Staff: Terri Peters, District Manager; Jen Wahl, Mitchell Rigelman, Sue Cerwinski  
Others: Rich Hall, County Commissioner, Adam Beilke BWRS, John Benjamin
  
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
  
- III. **AGENDA**  
*A-1 Additions to Agenda – Wabasha Meeting Rules – Weather related and  
A-2 Work Plans for 2020 Buffer and Capacity grant programs.  
Moved by Fick, seconded by Theismann to approve agenda with the addition of item A-1  
and A2 under new business  
Affirmative: Helbig, Theismann, Fick, Zabel  
Opposed: None  
Motion carried*
  
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker
  
- V. **CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action**  
A. Melendy Miller Contract Work – Invoice# 1 for Izaak Walton League UMRI  
paid out for work done 9-02-2019 to 10-04-2019 \$1,785.00 check# 10989  
*Moved by Fick, seconded by Zabel to approve Melendy Miller payment in the  
amount of \$1,785.00 for contract work done on Izaak Walton League UMRI  
Affirmative: Helbig, Theismann, Fick, Zabel  
Opposed: None  
Motion carried*
  
- VI. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**  
A. September 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes-Board Action  
*Moved by Fick and seconded by Theismann to approve secretary's report  
Affirmative: Helbig, Theismann, Fick, Zabel  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried*

**VII. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- A. September Program Record-Board Action  
*Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve*  
*Affirmative: Helbig, Theismann, Fick*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Motion Carried*
- B. District Financial Statements September 2019-Board Action  
*Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve*  
*Affirmative: Helbig, Theismann, Fick, Zabel*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Motion Carried*

**VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS**

- A. Monthly bills in the amount of \$22,445.18-Board Action  
*Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve payment of monthly bills*  
*in the amount of \$22,445.18*  
*Affirmative: Helbig, Theismann, Fick, Zabel*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Motion Carried*

**IX. DISTRICT REPORTS**

- A. Chair Report – Terry Helbig  
*Terry and Rich attended Oronoco monthly policy meeting.*  
*Worksheet for Prioritization of Projects*
- B. County Commissioners – Don Springer; Rich Hall  
*Rich Hall reported county under negotiations for insurance. If any monies left over he would push to get for SWCD.*
- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters  
*Met with Finance Committee on Health Care Options. Have results from the random survey for clean water. Gauged people on how they prioritize water quality and the health of water in the community. Most important water issue to you. One answer was to clean up the junk along the river. 60 reported from Wabasha and 120 from Olmsted County (Survey available at the their fair)*  
*Waterside Chats - First one was in Mantorville on 10/24, second one in Mazeppa 11/7 and the third one at Sportsman Club in Lake City. 11/14/19.*  
  
*Mitchell has a project structure & buffer that MN Ag Grant is not available for. New funding on \$5,000.00 to take back to the 35% threshold to cover cost. No amendment needed/note in contract what was available at time of contract being signed.*
- D. NRCS Report – Phillis Brey  
*One interest for CRP General sign up – possibly December, 2019*  
*CSP – paid out 6 contracts this fall. Not enough funds to make all payments*  
*Engineering – 5 engineering projects waiting to start this fall.*  
*RCPPEQIP - Completing payment requests – Waiting for Engineers to Sign off*

**Compliance plans – 3 Compliance plans written. 60 Waiting to be completed.  
New Employee – Nathan Paul from Wild Turkey Federation under Forestry Plan  
3-Years funding. Would like to get stewardship plan.**

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. 1W1P Update-Board Information**

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. -1 Weather Meeting Rule – Board Discussion**

***Discussed if we should cancel meetings for bad weather. If schools close, should we cancel the meeting. After discussing that we would have to post the agenda if we changed the meeting date or time, it was decided it was a non-issue.***

**-2 Work Plans for 2020 Buffer and Capacity grant programs – Board Action  
*Approved Buffer Grant for \$20k and the 2020 Capacity for \$111,348. Waiting for BWSR to execute the grant. Used for staffing, outreach, technical assistance, and equipment/supplies upgrades***

***Moved by Zabel and seconded by Theismann to approve  
Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried***

**B. PEIP Health Insurance renewal**

**(Finance Committee Recommendation) - Board Action**

***Motion by Chuck Fick to accept Finance Committee's recommendation to continue with the same health insurance plan for 2020 absorbing the \$3K cost change from last year and change HSA payment to quarterly from annually for Employees.***

***Moved by Fick and seconded by Zabel to approve  
Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried***

**C. County benefit enrollment- -Board Action**

***Motion for Board to approve County Employee Benefit program for Dental and Life Insurance as have been for Employees.***

***Moved by Fick and seconded by Zabel to approve  
Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried***

- D. MASWCD Annual Convention Attendance -**Board Discussion**  
**December 8-10<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**  
**Request for staff to go to training sessions, as part of their development.**  
**Need to let Terri know who is attending, so that she can register for the convention as well as for hotel rooms online. Two Board Members should attend.**  
**One meeting is on 1W1P.**  
**Motion to approve attendance of any staff member, for any part of the state convention.**  
**Moved by Fick and seconded by Zabel to approve**  
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**  
**Opposed: None**  
**Motion Carried**
- E. MASWCD Annual Meeting Auction Donation-**Board Action**  
**Money raised from the auction, goes to Outdoor Environmental Learning Competition for high school students. Board members should get auction items and can bring them to next meeting or bring up to the convention on Sunday night or Monday morning.**
- F. A7 MN Soil Health Coalition Strategic Plan Information—**Discussion**  
**Terry and Lynn went to presentation of A7 MN Health Coalition Strategic Plan given by Jennifer Hahn, who is based out of Luverne, MN. They provide educational resources for farmers, not financial. They have Articles of Incorporation and a Budget. Nonprofit. Asked for contribution. Area 7 Supervisors contributing \$2,000.00. Discussion was that we would find out more as the year goes on. Wait to see if they have a good enough plan. Some concerns of duplication of efforts.**
- G. 2019 CWF Regional Well Sealing Grant-Mower Sub-Agreement Amendment 1 -  
**Board Action**  
**Mower sent a request to increase their original grant of \$5,000.00.**  
**Area Well Sealing Grant from Water Resources Board. Some counties not using it. Only have two years to use it. Amendment to add \$5,000.00 to make it \$10,000.00 to utilize Well Sealing Grant. Some capacity funds dedicated to well sealing for 50% up to \$1,000.00 for costs up to \$2,000.00.**  
**Moved by Fick and seconded by Zabel to approve**  
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**  
**Opposed: None**  
**Motion Carried**

- H. **NACD Membership Contribution - Board Action**  
*Paid for majority of Mitchell's expenses for three weeks of training, including lodging, meals. Larry motioned to send \$100.00 for NACD membership. Pay in December or January. There is a Planning Funding Grant to cover staffing costs that Terri is looking into.*  
*Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve*  
*Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Motion Carried*
- I. **Star Tribune Article – "In SE MN, swollen river threatens to reclaim cropland"-Board Discussion**  
*Albert Carlson is looking for funding to pay for repair of a dike. The Zumbro River, near Theilman where Carlson lives, has destroyed crops from the highest recorded total rainfall in 133 years. The river dumped sand in the fields and submerged them for weeks. Berms built in the 60-70's have not been maintained.*  
*Terri Peters was interviewed by the Star Tribune and stated that "those berms weren't really built to withstand the weather events and peak flows and flooding that's been happening. There is not government funds to repair midcentury earthen berms protecting farmland".*
- J. **November & December Meeting Dates – Discussion**  
*Meeting Dates changed for November to the 21<sup>st</sup> and December to the 19<sup>th</sup> Work Plan after regular meeting for December.*
- K. **Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-6 Travis Danckwart for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700 Board Action**  
*Moved by Fick and seconded by Theismann to approve Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-6 Travis Danckwart for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700*  
*Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Motion Carried*
- L. **Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-7 Travis Danckwart for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700—Board Action**  
*Move Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-7 Travis Danckwart for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700*  
*Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick*  
*Opposed: None*  
*Motion Carried*

- M. Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-8 Travis Danckwart for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700- **Board Action**  
**Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-8 Travis Danckwart for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700**  
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**  
**Opposed: None**  
**Motion Carried**
- N. Contract Amendment 18-CS-2 & 19-CS-1 Diane McNallan \$11,971.88 Expiration date amendment from 11-30-19 to 10-31-20-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Fick and seconded by Theismann to approve Contract Amendment 18-CS-2 & 19-CS-1 Diane McNallan \$11,971.88 Expiration date amendment from 11-30-2019 to 10/31/2020**  
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**  
**Opposed: None**  
**Motion Carried**
- O. Jeremy Holst contract 17-Capacity -3 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) voucher final payment in the amount of \$600.00-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Theismann and seconded by Zabel to approve Jeremy Holst contract 17-Capacity-3 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) voucher final payment in the amount of \$600.00.**  
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**  
**Opposed: None**  
**Motion Carried**
- P. Bryton Miller contract 17-Capacity -2 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) voucher final payment in the amount of \$600.00-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Fick and seconded by Theismann to approve Bryton Miller contract 17-Capacity-2 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) voucher final payment in the amount of \$600.00.**  
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**  
**Opposed: None**  
**Motion Carried**
- Q. Leo Kottschade contract 18-Capacity-1 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2018) voucher 1<sup>st</sup> payment in the amount of \$900.00-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Theismann and seconded by Zabel to approve Leo Kottschade contract 18-Capacity-1 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2018) voucher 1<sup>st</sup> payment in the amount of \$900.00.**

**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

- R. Tom Miller contract 17-Capacity-1 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) final voucher payment in the amount of \$600.00-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Theismann and seconded by Zabel to approve Tom Miller contract 17-Capacity-1 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) Final voucher payment in the amount of \$600.00.**

**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

- S. Dalon Miller contract 17-Capacity-4 (practice 340 Cover Crop Capacity 2017) final voucher payment in the Amount of \$600.00-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Fick and seconded by Theismann to approve Dalon Miller contract 17-Capacity-4 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2017) Final voucher payment in the amount of \$600.00.**

**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

- T. Bruce Wood contract 19-Capacity-4 practice (340 Cover Crop Capacity 2019)<sup>1</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> voucher payment in the Amount of \$750.00-**Board Action**  
**Moved by Theismann and seconded by Zabel to approve Bruce Wood contract 17-Capacity-4 (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2019) 1st voucher payment in the amount of \$750.00.**

**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

- U. Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-9 Muholland Farms for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700- **Board Action**  
**Moved by Theismann and seconded by Fick to approve Contract for approval on 19-Capacity-9 Mulholland Farms for 30 acres of cover crops (practice 340 Cover Crops Capacity 2019) total amount \$2,700.00.**

**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

- V. Amendment Approval of one-time extension on contract 18-Capacity-3 Tony Burke for 30 acres of cover crops, new installation date will be 11/01/2021- **Board Action Moved by Fick and seconded by Theismann to approve Amendment Approval of one-time extension on contract 18-Capacity-3 Tony Burke for 30 acres of cover crops, new installation date will be 11/01/2021..**

**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

**Terri brought up that there is a Grant from BWRS for Cover crops - Blaine/Dodge County for a joint application for a few Inter-seeders to have available. Contract with a farmer. Save time for one person to do it and would have the settings.**

W. Upcoming Events

- i. BWRS Academy October 29-31 Breezy Point, MN
- ii. Wabasha County Water Side Chat Nov 14 Lake City Sportsman Club
- iii. MASWCD Convention December 8-10 Bloomington, MN

XII. **Board Reports**

A. WW1W1P-

**Sheila Harmes – absent**

**Lynn Reported on the North Fork project by Viola. Jeff Weis from DNR had a slide show of the project, showing topography. Not one culvert, they use more culverts to spread out the water - to release when widespread flooding. Landowner initiated, was high up on the watershed.**

B. 1W1P

XIII. **Adjourn- Board Action**

**Motion by Fick and seconded by Theismann to adjourn**

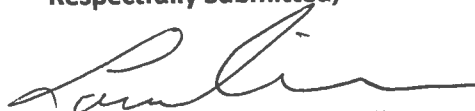
**Affirmative: Helbig, Zabel, Theismann, Fick**

**Opposed: None**

**Motion Carried**

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:50 AM**

Respectfully Submitted,



**Larry Theismann, Secretary**